



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6  
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200  
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

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SURFACE WATER  
QUALITY BUREAU

Ron Curry, Secretary  
New Mexico Environment Department  
P. O. Box 26110  
Santa Fe, NM 87502

Dear Mr. Curry:

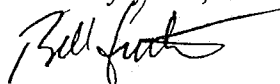
The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has received the final document entitled *WQCC Approved Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Dry Cimarron River Watershed* on April 28, 2009. Based on our review, we conclude that the TMDL Report meets the requirements found in Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and the implementing regulations at 40 CFR §130.7. EPA is therefore pleased to approve the loadings for the waterbody pollutant pairs listed below.

<u>Waterbody</u>	<u>Subsegment Number</u>	<u>Pollutant of Concern</u>
Dry Cimarron River - perennial reaches OK boundary to Long Canyon	NM-2701_00	Sulfate and Total Dissolved Solids
Dry Cimarron River - Long Canyon to Oak Creek	NM-2701_02	<i>E. coli</i> and Total Dissolved Solids
Long Canyon - perennial reaches above the Dry Cimarron	NM-2701_20	<i>E. coli</i> and Selenium
Oak Creek - Dry Cimarron to headwaters	NM-2701_10	<i>E. coli</i> , Total Phosphorus, and Total Nitrogen

EPA also approves these loadings as updates to the New Mexico Water Quality Management Plan. Included in this TMDL submittal was a TMDL Implementation Plan. Presently, EPA has no duty to approve or disapprove implementation plans under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act (CWA). Therefore, EPA is taking no action to approve or disapprove the TMDL Implementation Plans submitted by NMED.

We commend your staff for the considerable effort that went into developing and establishing these TMDLs. If you would like to discuss these approvals, please contact me at (214) 665-7101 or Linda Adams of my staff at (214) 665-6546.

Sincerely yours,



Bill Luthans  
Acting Director  
Water Quality Protection Division

Enclosures

cc: Heidi Henderson, NMED  
James Hogan, NMED (w/enclosure)